

Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

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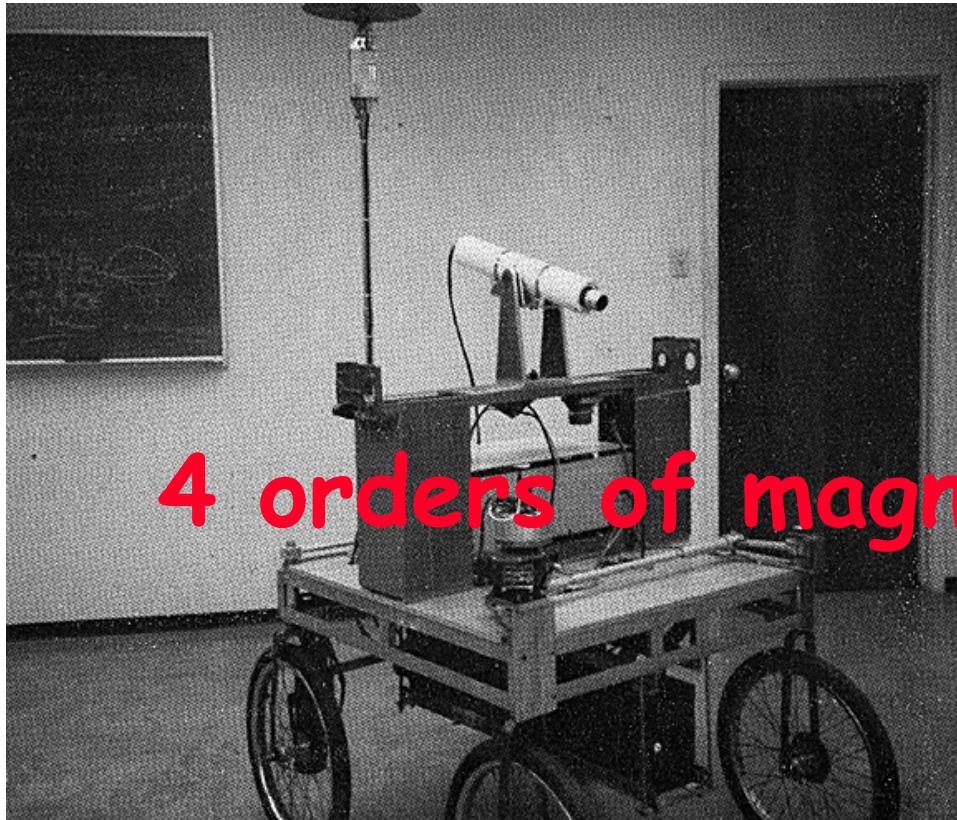


CSAIL
iRobot



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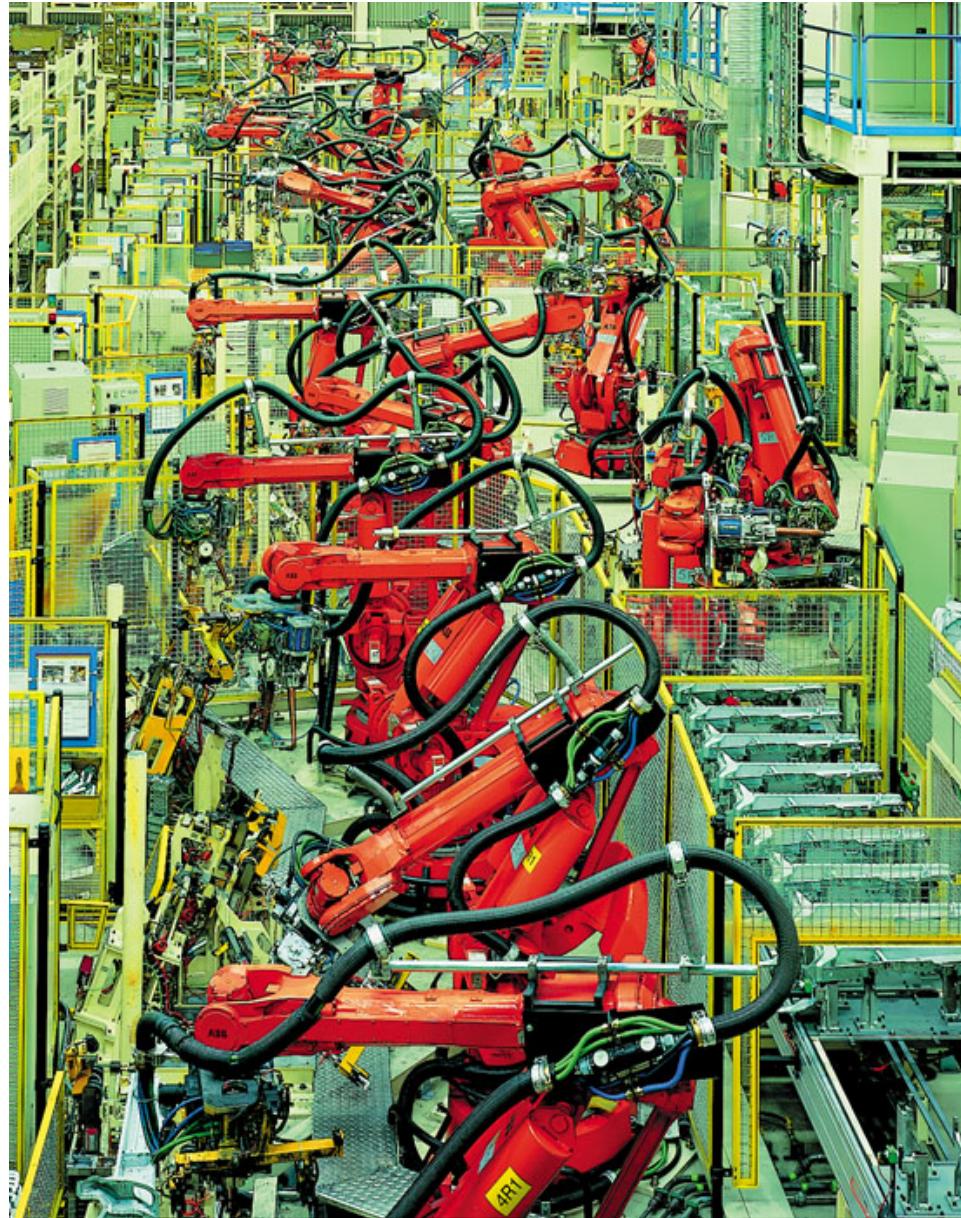
4 orders of magnitude in 26 years

1979: 20 meters/6 hours

2005: 200 kilometers/6 hours

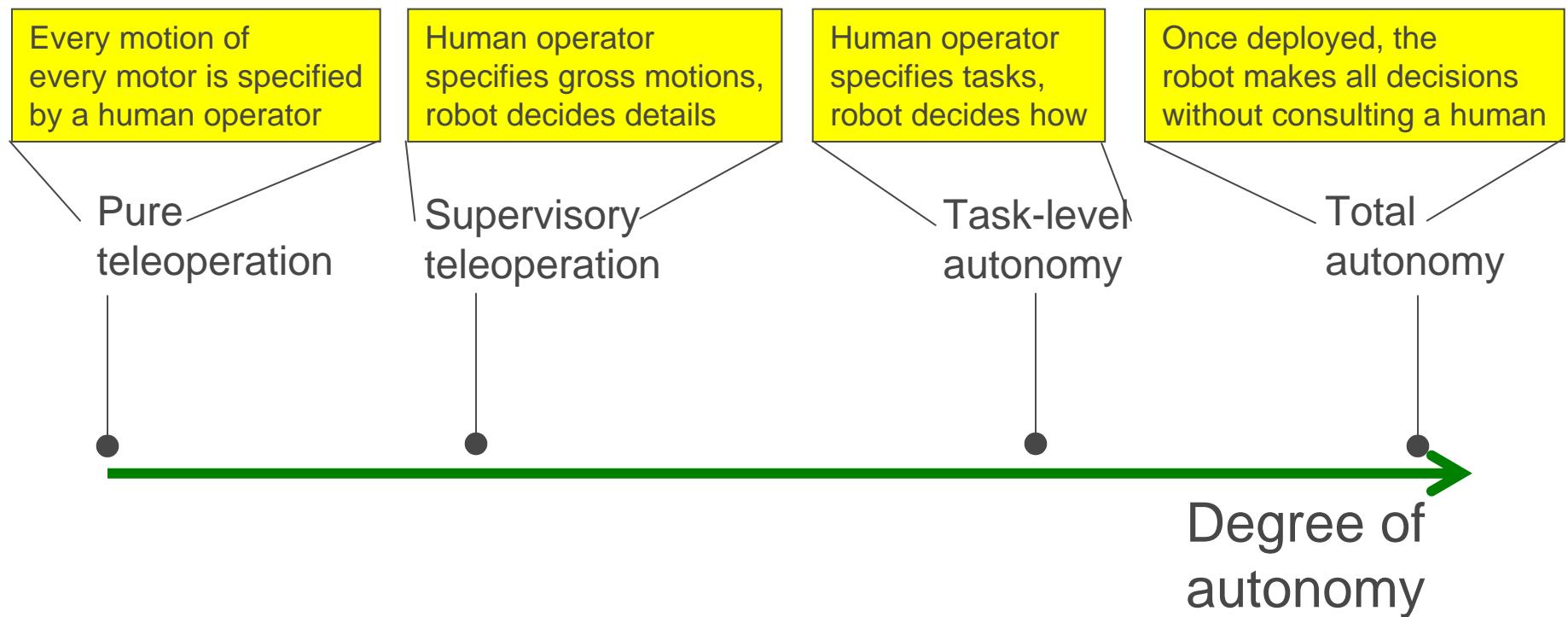


Our Recent View of Robots





Autonomy For Robots



Autonomy Levels



Pure
teleoperation



Supervisory
teleoperation

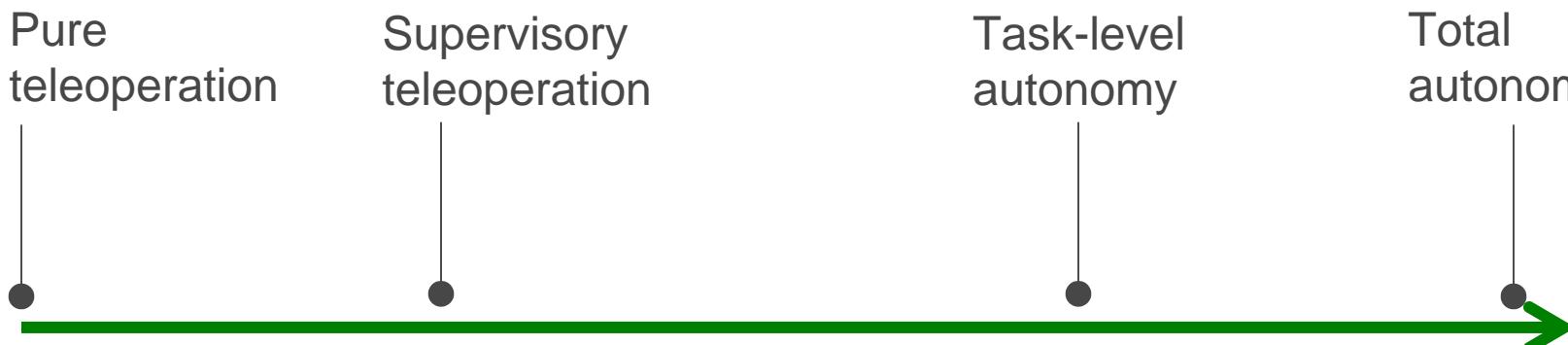


Task-level
autonomy

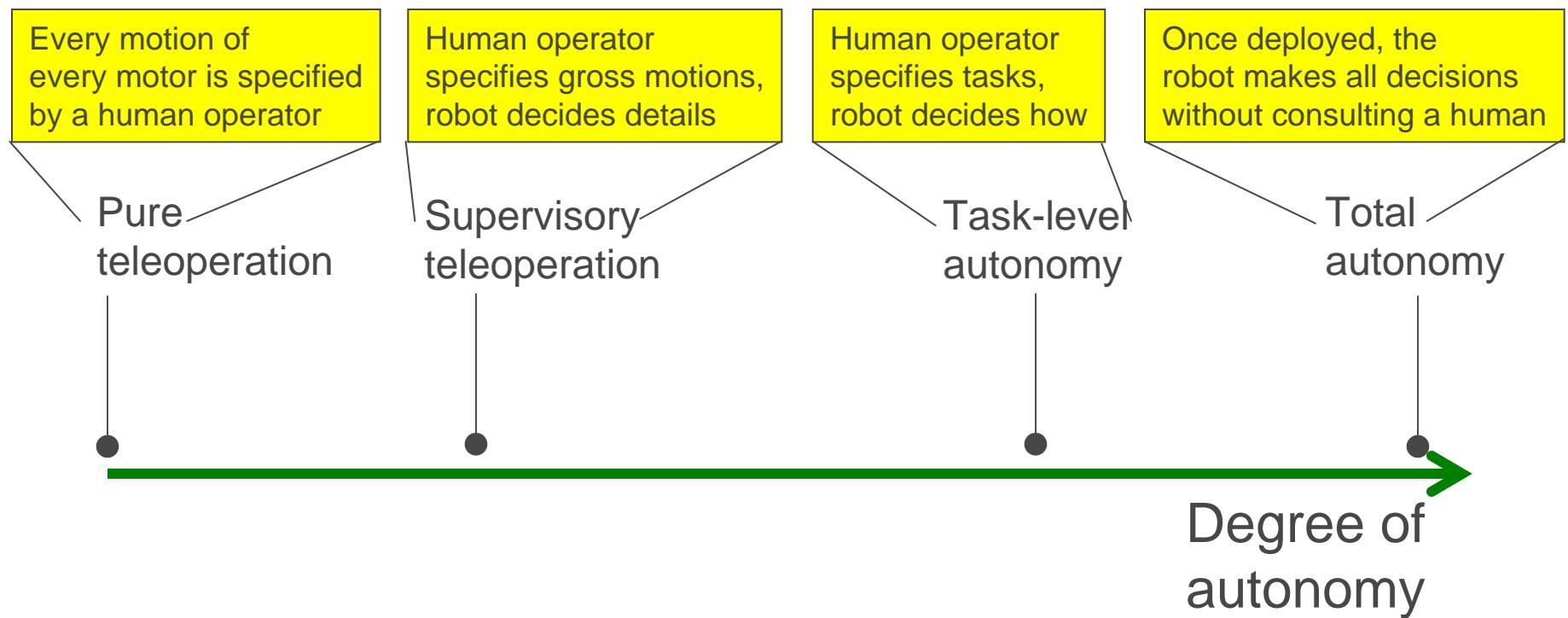
Total
autonomy



Degree of
autonomy



Autonomy For Robots





iRobot Autonomy Levels



Pure
teleoperation

Supervisory
teleoperation

Task-level
autonomy

Total
autonomy



Degree of
autonomy



iRobot®

PackBot EOD



iRobot®



L



PackBot #129

Killed In Action
April 8, 2004
Iraq



iRobot®



iRobot®



g
o

iRobot®

Why Manipulation for Robots?



- Teleoperation of manipulation is slow and difficult
 - for EOD missions this is currently acceptable but not optimal
 - for tactical situations it is not acceptable
- Tasks for manipulation in tactical situations
 - opening doors
 - rapidly placing charges
 - poking and lifting
- Tasks for manipulation elsewhere
 - logistics and supply
 - casualty removal

State of Art in Robot Manipulation



- Deployed
 - pre-engineered in carefully controlled environments
 - pure (or marginally supervisory) teleoperation
 - » perhaps after a task-level or fully autonomous traverse
- Touch Sensors
 - mostly rigid
 - mostly require too much pressure
 - mostly measure only normal force

Lab Robots For Grasping



Force only

Force and touch

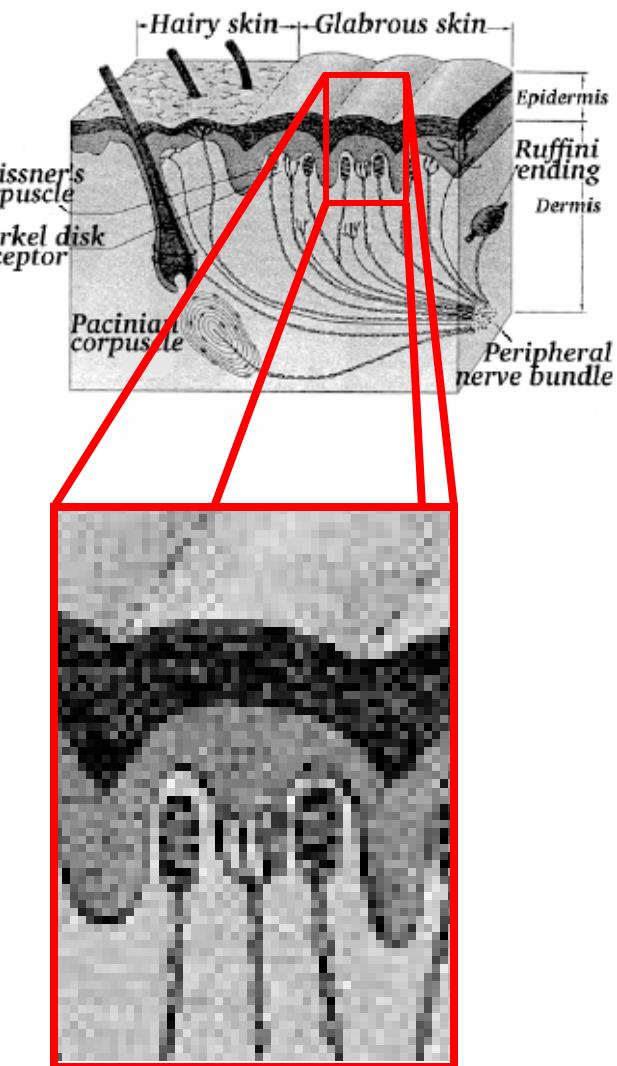
Pure Force Control



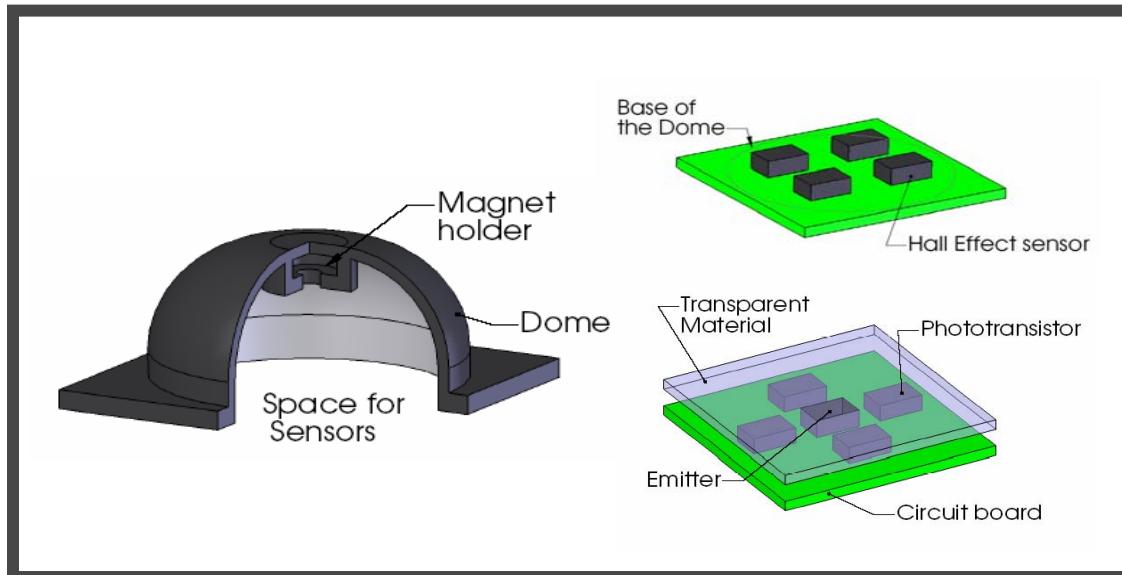
[Movie File](#)

Our Approach to Touch

- Biological inspired sensors.
 - Dome shaped
 - Deformable
- Sensors favor compliance over spatial resolution.
- RIDGES



Approach to Tactile Sensing

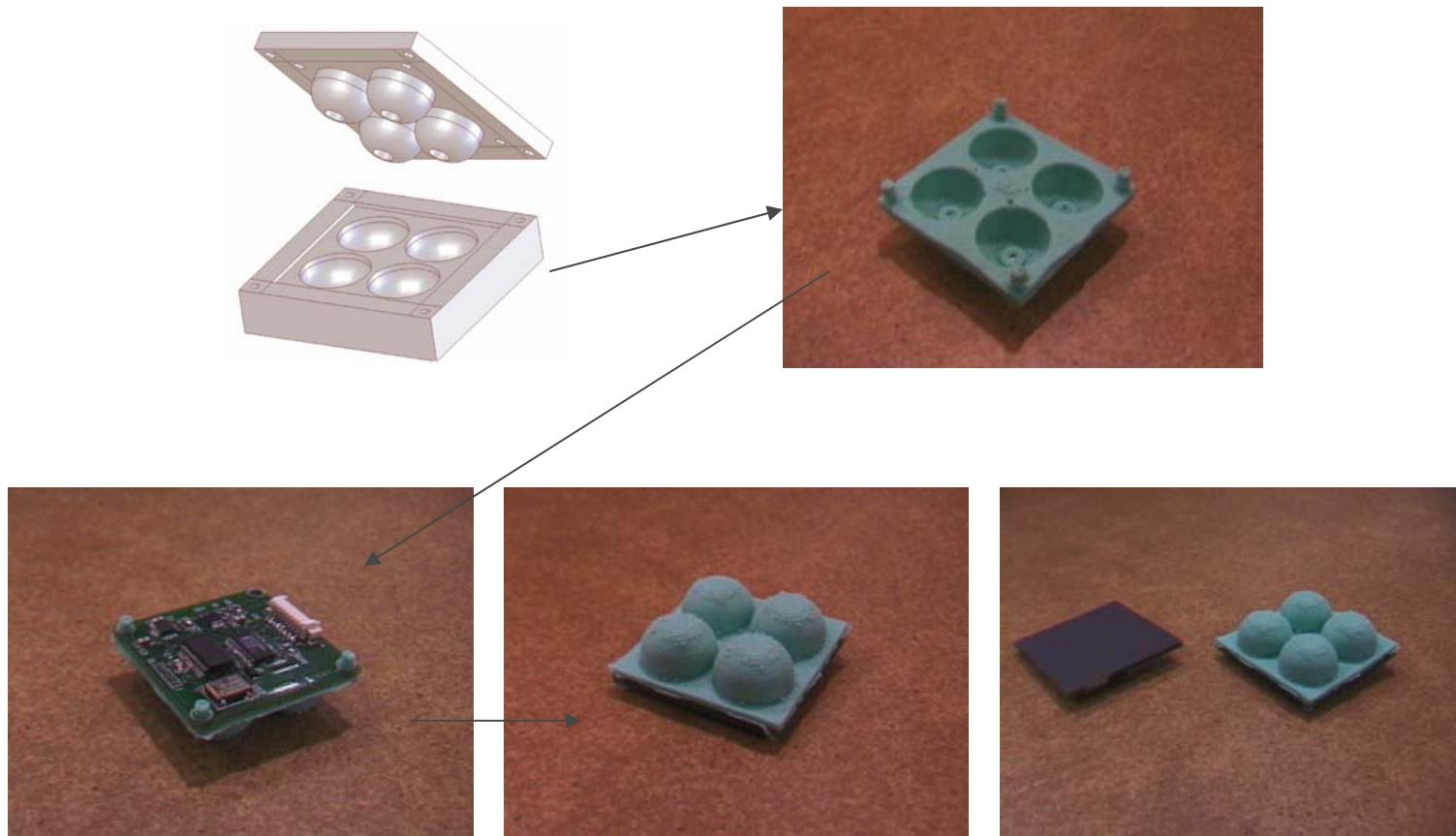


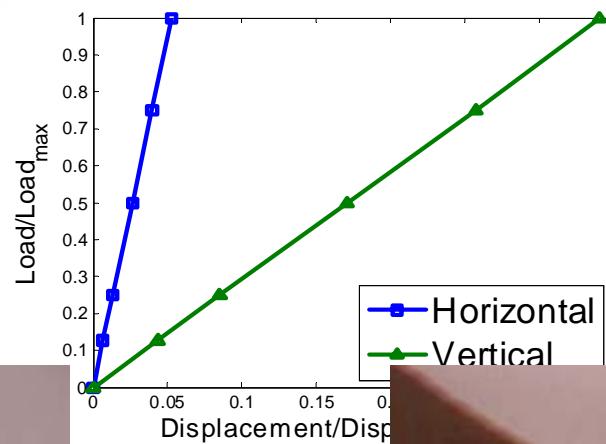
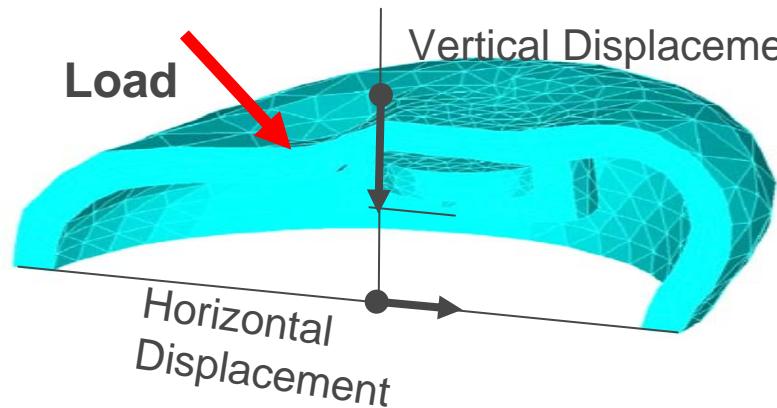
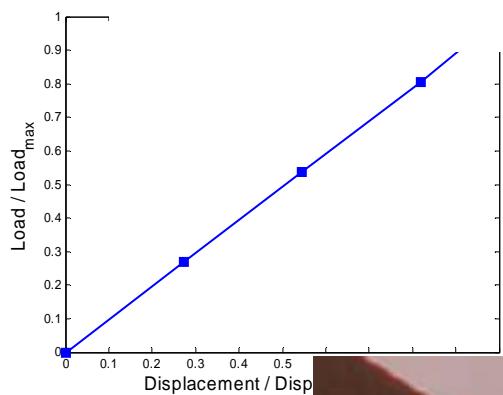
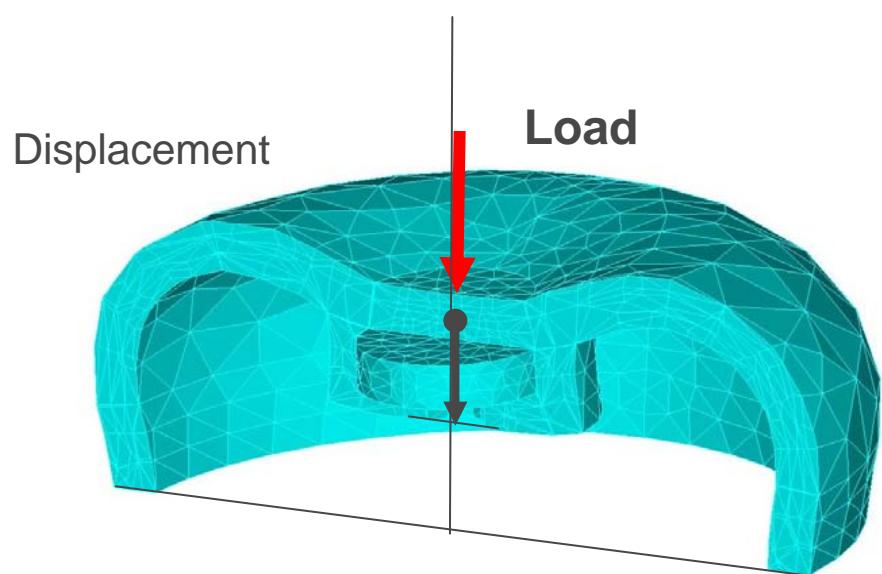
- Position of the top of the sensor gives an estimation of the force applied
- Magnetic:
 - A magnet on the dome, 4 hall effect sensors on the base
- Optical version
 - A LED and 4 photo receptors on the base

Sensor Prototyping



- Molding silicon rubber







[Movie File](#)

Slip Detection + Correction



Micro Technology & Manipulation



- Embedded processing
 - for images, planning, control
- Tactile sensors
 - transistors in compliant materials
 - large arrays
 - sheets that can be cut and shaped
- Other tactile modalities
 - intertwined with temperature sensors
 - intertwined with sniffers
- More generally
 - not just faster, and lower power
 - embedded computation and sensing in materials